

English II  
Second Semester Final

*The Kite Runner*

**Section I: Objective**

- ✓ 50 scantron questions; 1/2 points each
- ✓ True/false and multiple choice
- ✓ Matching
- ✓ Plot, themes, characters
- ✓ Sequence of events
- ✓ Quote identification
- ✓ Vocabulary List

**Section II: Short Answer**

- ✓ 10 questions; 2 points each
- ✓ Plot/Sequence of Events
- ✓ Literary Elements (Irony, Conflict, Symbolism)

**Section III: Essay**

You will write a persuasive essay in response to the following prompt:

As a member of the Lake Oswego Curriculum Committee, you are faced with the task of deciding what works of literature to teach to students. Your job is extremely important, in that the texts that you choose will shape the learning experiences of an entire class of students for an entire year. One text that has recently been suggested for adoption is the novel *The Kite Runner*. You have studied the novel carefully and now you must make a recommendation to the committee.

There are quite a few things to keep in mind – the first being the overall course goals. The handbook states that Sophomore English “focuses on our cultural heritage. Students explore the themes of accepting individual responsibility and making ethical choices within the evolving context of the developing Western Culture.” The big question that must be answered is “Does this text accomplish these goals?”

Within this framework, there are other, more specific issues that must be considered. When reviewing a text for adoption, the following criteria are considered: aptness of language and style; universality of intellectual appeal; universality of emotional appeal; relevance to human experience; insights into an era or culture; example of its genre; correlation with other subject areas; connections with other literary works; suitability for level of instruction.

Once you have decided whether you would recommend this text, your task is to compose a persuasive essay detailing the reasons for your choice. Your reasons must take into consideration the established criteria for adoption. In composing this essay, you will need to argue persuasively for your cause and take into consideration possible objections to your decision. Your essay should include the following elements:

**Introduction**

- ✓ Something to draw your reader into your argument
- ✓ Background information
- ✓ Position/Thesis Statement

**Body**

- ✓ At least 3 arguments supporting your position, organized according to adoption criteria
- ✓ Evidence from the text that supports your arguments
- ✓ Connection to overall position

Opposition (“Yeah, But” Argument)

- ✓ Introduces significant argument from opposition and refutes (disproves) it

Conclusion

- ✓ Recaps position statement
- ✓ Recaps arguments